



**City of Milpitas  
Building and Safety Department**

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**Booster fan use in the clothes dryer  
exhaust**

**Policy:**

BDP-ME02

Effective Date:

4/16/2007

Proposed by:

Last Reviewed/  
Revised:

2/6/2014

Reviewed/  
Revised by:

MM

Approved By:

Keyvan Irannejad P.E.  
Chief Building Official

Use of a booster fan in compliance with the exhaust duct requirements of 2013 California Mechanical Code section 504.3.1.2 can be approved under "Alternate Materials and Methods of Construction" per Milpitas Municipal Code section II-1-6.01, if the following conditions are met:

1. Compliance with all installation instructions of the manufacturer.
2. The booster fan shall be readily accessible for inspection, service (lint removal), repair or replacement, without the use of ladders and/or special tools. The manufacturer's maintenance instructions shall be included as part of the building operation and maintenance manual to be placed in the building at the time of final inspection. When the booster fan cannot be located in a readily accessible location, the approval of the use of booster fan is subject to the condition that HOA agrees to provide regular maintenance per manufacturer's instructions and such agreement shall be included in the CC&R. This condition of approval shall be indicated on the plan for review and approval.
3. The booster fan must be functional, i.e. the sensor shall always be on and shall not have a manual shut down.
4. The discharge shall be in an approved location and have a visible point of discharge.
5. Specially designed clothes dryer appliances shall not be used in lieu of an external booster fan to meet the exhaust ducting requirements.
6. The booster fan shall be wired in such a way that the clothes dryer will not operate unless the booster is fully operational. Submit booster fan installation instructions and electrical wiring diagram.
7. A label shall be attached to the inside face of the access panel to the booster fan indicating the actual length of the dryer duct installed and that a City permit is required for the replacement of the booster fan with an equivalent listing as the existing fan. The label material shall be durable under the sustained temperature when the booster fan is in operation and shall be permanently attached to the access panel.